

Minutes: Leesburg Tree Commission December 16, 2002

The Leesburg Tree Commission met on Monday, December 16, 2002 at 7:30 p.m. in the lower level meeting room at 25 West Market Street, Leesburg, VA. Staff present for the meeting was Jay Banks.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Chairperson Wolf
 Commissioner Hower
 Commissioner Goolsby
 Commissioner Perry
 Commissioner Pritchard
 Council Member Schmidt

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Pritchard made a motion to approve the minutes of October 21, 2002 with minor changes.

Motion: Pritchard
Second: Perry
Carried: 5-0-2

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Bruce Dewar and Ms. Julie Overman offered to the Tree Commission help from the Shade Tree Stewards with the Flower and Garden Show they would be happy to help. Mr. Dewar suggested getting the poster of How to Kill a Tree made into brochures.

Mr. Banks stated that there was an attempt to shrink the poster down from the Internet but it just didn't work and Virginia Tech only has it in poster form.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Wolf stated that he talked to Mr. Ben Lawerance regarding the Koussa Dogwoods on the By-pass and Mr. Lawerance's only comment was that he knows how many are dead.

Commissioner Wolf stated that Commissioner Goolsby thought that the Tree Commission may wish to participate in the next Halloween Parade.

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Mr. Banks stated that the current budget is \$10,000 for the Commission's budget, with \$9,000 for supplies and \$1,000 for travel and training.

Commissioner Pritchard talked about increasing the budget for this year.

Mr. Banks stated that the Commission already has \$7,000 committed to the Intern position and the trees have been bought for the Flower and Garden show and \$1,500 committed to Arbor Day.

Commissioner Perry discussed a tree program for Leesburg. She asked how much the 2000 by 2000 program cost.

Mr. Banks stated the plant a tree program costs were about \$1,000.

Commissioner Pritchard made a motion to change the budget to \$12,000.

Motion: Pritchard

Second: Goolsby

Carried: 5-0-2

Commissioner Hower asked about the next two meeting dates being moved due to holidays.

Mr. Banks stated that the Commission asked that those two meetings be moved to the 4th Monday of the month.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:

Commissioner Goolsby stated that he appreciated Mr. Schmidt's comments at the Town Council meeting about tree issues.

STAFF COMMENTS:

Councilman Schmidt stated that the Town Council talked about Mr. Banks' duties and that all the Departments are not properly using him and he is not being given input into some of the Planning issues.

Mr. Banks talked about the draft of the business development strategy that was included in the packets. Mr. Banks also stated that he was assuming that the Commission and the Council still want to proceed with their Tree City USA award so that paper work has been submitted. Mr. Banks told the Commission about an event coming up that might be of interest, The Trees and Utilities National Conference on March 11 and 12 of 2003.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Pritchard made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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Motion: Pritchard
Second: Perry
Carried: 5-0-2

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Jay S. Banks, Urban Forester